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Author: Mickey Lolich Category: Oral Histories

Tom,

Below is the phone interview with Mickey Lolich. What a delightful man, very funny and kind, was happy to talk to me.

April 17, 2012

Priscilla Massie had conversation with Mickey Lolich this morning April 17, 2012.

Mickey said "he had very little contact with John Fetzer; the whole time he was with the Tigers he had very little contact with the players. He never came to the club house where the ball players were – maybe a couple of times with Campbell."

"The Transcendental [Meditation] classes were offered to the team, it was not mandatory. I think it was Campbell that told the team about the classes; it definitely was not Mr. Fetzer, he had very little to do with the team." Mickey took one of the Transcendental [Meditation] classes and decided "this isn't for me," and didn't take another class.

Mickey went on to say that the most interaction he had with John Fetzer was "on the day in 1968 when the team won the pennant to go to the World Series."

"The team was in the club house celebrating and drinking champagne; John Fetzer stood by watching the celebration, smiling but not involved in the celebration." "So I said to Bill Freehan that Fetzer didn't look like he was having any fun – let's throw him in the whirlpool!"

"We went over to John Fetzer in his nice three-piece suit he always wore, and picked him up and carried him into the other room where the whirlpool was, and threw him in the whirlpool. He went completely in, head and all – he came up with the biggest smile" and said, "Well I feel like I am part of the team now, and part of the celebration." Mickey said, "He stayed around in the wet suit and celebrated with the team."